



# PEDIATRIC GLOBAL HEALTH FELLOWSHIP

EQUITY, PARTNERSHIP, SERVICE, SCHOLARSHIP



### **Overview**

The Pediatric Global Health Fellowship at Boston Children's Hospital aims to train future leaders, advocates, activists and partners in global child health as well as support the development of essential child health services in regions of the world with greatest need.

Our goal is to train a cadre of pediatricians who have the skills and longterm commitment necessary to partner with colleagues around the world and make an impact in improving child and adolescent health in resourceconstrained settings.

Over the course of this fellowship, fellows gain the tangible skills necessary to have successful careers in global health. They learn about advocacy, decoloniality, evidence-based health system development, and service delivery, through a lens of equity and sustainability.



Through an education based in praxis, our fellows have lifelong careers dedicated to global health justice.



# The Experience

### Global Commitment

During their global experience, fellows work clinically as well as collaborate to support context-driven scholarship in education, quality improvement, research initiatives, etc... Fellows become an integrated team member in the communities they work within.

### Local Commitment

During their clinical placement, fellows will combine clinical work in general pediatrics with a global health curriculum aimed at strengthening their core clinical, public health, social medicine, quality improvement, and teaching skills relevant to global health. Fellows will receive a clinical hospital-based position, salary and full employee benefits package through BCH. Fellows will also be recommended for an academic appointment at Harvard Medical School as a Clinical Fellow.

### Indian Health Services-South and North Dakota

In a domestic collaboration with Indian Health Services, Great Plains Nations Fellows (as well as other BCH faculty) work to provide clinical service at the Cheyenne River Health Center (South Dakota) and Turtle Mountain Health Center (North Dakota). Both sites provides primary care, urgent care and basic inpatient hospitalization as a critical access facility. Fellow sand faculty will also participate in community outreach, school health and public health project work in the Cheyenne river area.

\*To comply with local needs, applicants must be Board Certified or Board Eligible in Pediatrics by the American Board of Pediatrics.

# Established BCH Partnerships...

### Liberia- Health Workforce Program

Boston Children's Hospital has partnered with multiple organizations in Liberia (The Ministry of Health, JFK Medical Center, Liberia College of Physicians and Surgeons and the University of Liberia) for over ten years. Current work focuses on collaborating to support Liberia's only pediatric residency training program and improving the quality of pediatric care at the teaching hospital and/or at the district level at Phebe Hospital. Fellows at the Liberia partnership join an international team at John F. Kennedy Medical Center as pediatric faculty for the Liberian residents, interns and medical students. Pediatricians work alongside trainees in inpatient and outpatient settings to teach clinical and didactic medicine. At Phebe Hospital the fellows support the education of interns, general practitioners and nurses and have the opportunity to implement clinical guidelines and quality improvement type clinical work. Both hospitals have robust outpatient clinics for a pediatrician more interested in clinic/primary care work opportunities to develop experiences in those areas are available.

### Rwanda Human Resources for Health Program

Boston Children's Hospital is partnered with the Rwanda Ministry of Health and University of Rwanda in a longitudinal program to support resident and medical student training and academic development for faculty in Pediatrics. Several BCH faculty members are engaged in collaborations building capacity for clinical care, developing pediatric training curriculum, and engaging in collaborative research projects. Fellows have the opportunity to participate in a rotation for medical education and/or clinical experience as well as to engaging ongoing collaborations.

# Designing the Global Commitment

Fellows also have the opportunity to create a more individualized path for those with significant experience in other settings or with pre-existing bidirectional partnerships they have worked with in the past.

In addition to designated fellowship partnership sites, Boston Children's Global Health Program partners in other contexts with clinical and project opportunities. Previous fellows have worked in Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, etc...

# Designing Scholarship ... rooted in justice.... committed to equity...

Fellows are expected to complete a scholarly project with oversight from faculty mentors over the course of their fellowship. Projects can be quality improvement, program management, curriculum evaluation or formal research. All projects are done in partnership with global colleagues and through a lens of decoloniality and social justice. Throughout Boston Children's as well as the broader Harvard global health community, fellows have an opportunity to meet with faculty mentors and identify mentorship teams and projects. Small internal grants are available for project funding as well as assistance in identifying and applying for additional funding sources









# Examples of previous scholarly work include:

- Implementation and Evaluation of Hybrid General Pediatrics Curriculum in Rwandan Pediatrics Residency during COVID-19 Pandemic: A Mixed Methods Study
- A mixed methods study looking at Neonatal mortality in Maya Kaqchikel communities in Guatemala through a Bio Social approach
- Task-Shifting Peri-Transitional Mental Health Support for Young Adult with Chronic Diseases in Kumasi, Ghana,
- Understanding Depression and Anxiety in Ghanaian Youth Living with HIV Implementation of a Pediatric Early Warning Score to Improve Communication and Nursing Empowerment in a Rural District Hospital in Rwanda
- Health System Strengthening of Pediatric Non-Communicable Diseases in Mirebalais, Haiti

# A Day in the Life

While there is no "typical day" fellows often integrate their clinical care and scholarly work.

A fellow will arrive for morning rounds which is a mixture of bedside teaching (med students, interns, residents, PAs, general practitioners, etc.) and active patient care and consultations.

After rounds, on one day a fellow may participate in clinics and support the hospital teams to follow up on inpatients. However on the next day, the fellow may use the afternoon to do formal didactic teaching both as a presenter and/or a participant. The following day, they may meet with local colleagues to conduct jointly led research or quality improvement projects. Phone call from home for periods of time (days to a week) to provide back up support to overnight staff at the hospital.

Each fellow can individualize their schedule based on the needs of their local colleagues, context and the fellow's interest and skill.

### **Education**



Boston Children's offers a number of educational opportunities for global health fellows. In addition to coursework through the fellowship program, fellows are able to take advantage of learning opportunities throughout the Harvard system.

### Formal Global Health Degree Programs and Courses

For those fellows completing a 3-year fellowship, fellows will receive funding for a Master's degree. Fellows typically obtain a Master's in Public Health through the T. H. Chan School of Public Health or a Master's in Global Health Delivery through Harvard Medical School.

For fellows completing a 2-year fellowship or those with a Master's degree, some funding is provided for additional coursework. In the past this coursework has included: the Summer Program in Clinical Effectiveness (HSPH), Global Health Delivery Intensive (HSPH), and the Gorgas Diploma in Tropical Medicine Course. Additional details and opportunities can be discussed on an individual basis.

# Boston Children's Hospital Global Health Program Offerings Clinical Skills Week:

The Global Pediatric Clinical Skills Week is an annual Course which provides an overview of key topics for pediatric clinicians to help prepare them for clinical work in resource limited settings. Sessions include Core Clinical Topics in Global Health, Ethics in Global Health, Key Questions in Global Healthcare Delivery, and Ultrasound Training.

#### Fellows Seminars:

This is a monthly seminar series which covers key concepts in global health development and humanitarian work. The focus of this series is on health delivery and understanding the landscape of global health and the role of health care providers. The seminar compliments the fellows' formal coursework with a focus on health service delivery and program implementation.

### Decoloniality for Global Health Equity:

This curriculum provides fellows with an opportunity to reflect on their work and grapple with how to decolonize our work in resource limited settings. Theories are discussed through didactics focused on key issues of health equity and working collaboratively with partners. Then concrete actions are incorporated such as skill building in advocacy methods and on-going project mentorship.

# Leadership



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Assistant Professor in Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine Harvard Medical School Pediatric Emergency Medicine Attending Boston Children's Hospital



Christiana Russ, MD, DTM&H Director, Global Health Education

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